

ESTIMATES FOR EIGENVALUES OF THE OPERATOR L_r

GUANGYUE HUANG AND XUERONG QI

ABSTRACT. In this paper, we consider an eigenvalue problem of the elliptic operator

$$L_r = \operatorname{div}(T^r \nabla \cdot)$$

on compact submanifolds in arbitrary codimension of space forms $\mathbb{R}^N(c)$ with $c \geq 0$. Our estimates on eigenvalues are sharp.

1. INTRODUCTION

Let $x : M \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^N(c)$ be an n -dimensional orientable closed connected submanifold of an N -dimensional space form $\mathbb{R}^N(c)$ of constant sectional curvature c , where $\mathbb{R}^N(c)$ is Euclidean space \mathbb{R}^N when $c = 0$, $\mathbb{R}^N(c)$ is a unit sphere \mathbb{S}^N when $c = 1$, and $\mathbb{R}^N(c)$ is a hyperbolic space \mathbb{H}^N when $c = -1$. Let $\{e_A\}_{A=1}^N$ be an orthonormal basis along M such that $\{e_i\}_{i=1}^n$ are tangent to M and $\{e_\alpha\}_{\alpha=n+1}^N$ are normal to M . Denote by $\{\theta_i\}_{i=1}^n$ and $\{\theta_\alpha\}_{\alpha=n+1}^N$ the dual frame, respectively. Then we have the following structure equation (see [6]):

$$dx = \sum_i \theta_i e_i, \quad (1.1)$$

$$de_i = \sum_j \theta_{ij} e_j + \sum_{\alpha,j} h_{ij}^\alpha \theta_j e_\alpha - c \theta_i x, \quad (1.2)$$

$$de_\alpha = - \sum_{i,j} h_{ij}^\alpha \theta_j e_i + \sum_\beta \theta_{\alpha\beta} e_\beta, \quad (1.3)$$

where h_{ij}^α denote the components of the second fundamental form of x . Let $B_{ij} = \sum_{\alpha=n+1}^N h_{ij}^\alpha e_\alpha$. If $r \in \{0, 1, \dots, n-1\}$ is even, the operator L_r is defined by

$$L_r(f) = \sum_{i,j} T_{ij}^r f_{ij}, \quad (1.4)$$

and

$$L_{r-1}(f) = \sum_{i,j} T_{\alpha ij}^{r-1} f_{ij} e_\alpha. \quad (1.5)$$

2000 *Mathematics Subject Classification.* Primary 53C40, Secondary 58C40.

Key words and phrases. r -minimal submanifold, L_r operator, eigenvalues.

Here T^r is given by

$$T_{ij}^r = \frac{1}{r!} \sum_{\substack{i_1 \cdots i_r \\ j_1 \cdots j_r}} \delta_{i_1 \cdots i_r i}^{j_1 \cdots j_r j} \langle B_{i_1 j_1}, B_{i_2 j_2} \rangle \cdots \langle B_{i_{r-1} j_{r-1}}, B_{i_r j_r} \rangle; \quad (1.6)$$

$$T_{\alpha ij}^{r-1} = \frac{1}{(r-1)!} \sum_{\substack{i_1 \cdots i_{r-1} \\ j_1 \cdots j_{r-1}}} \delta_{i_1 \cdots i_{r-1} i}^{j_1 \cdots j_{r-1} j} \langle B_{i_1 j_1}, B_{i_2 j_2} \rangle \cdots \langle B_{i_{r-3} j_{r-3}}, B_{i_{r-2} j_{r-2}} \rangle h_{i_{r-1} j_{r-1}}^\alpha, \quad (1.7)$$

$\delta_{i_1 \cdots i_r i}^{j_1 \cdots j_r j}$ is the generalized Kronecker symbols. It has been shown in [6] that T^r is symmetric and divergence-free. When r is even,

$$L_r(f) = \operatorname{div}(T_r \nabla f),$$

and the corresponding r th mean curvature function S_r and $(r+1)$ th mean curvature vector field \mathbf{S}_{r+1} are given by

$$\begin{aligned} S_r &= \frac{1}{r!} \sum_{\substack{i_1 \cdots i_r \\ j_1 \cdots j_r}} \delta_{i_1 \cdots i_r}^{j_1 \cdots j_r} \langle B_{i_1 j_1}, B_{i_2 j_2} \rangle \cdots \langle B_{i_{r-1} j_{r-1}}, B_{i_r j_r} \rangle \\ &= \frac{1}{r} T_{\alpha ij}^{r-1} h_{ij}^\alpha \\ &= \binom{n}{r} H_r; \\ \mathbf{S}_{r+1} &= \frac{1}{(r+1)!} \sum_{\substack{i_1 \cdots i_{r+1} \\ j_1 \cdots j_{r+1}}} \delta_{i_1 \cdots i_{r+1}}^{j_1 \cdots j_{r+1}} \langle B_{i_1 j_1}, B_{i_2 j_2} \rangle \cdots \langle B_{i_{r-1} j_{r-1}}, B_{i_r j_r} \rangle B_{i_{r+1} j_{r+1}} \\ &= \frac{1}{r+1} T_{ij}^r h_{ij}^\alpha e_\alpha \\ &= \binom{n}{r+1} \mathbf{H}_{r+1}. \end{aligned} \quad (1.8)$$

It has also been shown in [6] that for any even integer $r \in \{0, 1, \dots, n-1\}$, we have

$$\operatorname{trace}(T^r) = (n-r)S_r \quad (1.10)$$

and

$$L_r(x) = (r+1)\mathbf{S}_{r+1} - c(n-r)S_r x, \quad (1.11)$$

$$L_r(e_\alpha) = - \sum_{i,j,k} T_{ij}^r h_{ik,j}^\alpha e_k - \sum_{i,j,k,\beta} T_{ij}^r h_{ik}^\alpha h_{jk}^\beta e_\beta + c \sum_{i,j} T_{ij}^r h_{ij}^\alpha x. \quad (1.12)$$

When M is a hypersurface of a space form, we have

$$L_0(f) = \Delta(f), \quad L_1(f) = \square(f) = (nH\delta_{ij} - h_{ij})f_{ij}, \quad (1.13)$$

where the operator \square was introduced by Cheng-Yau in [5] and studied by many mathematicians. In [1], Alencar, do Carmo and Rosenberg generalized Reilly's inequality to more general operators L_r than the Laplacian. That

is, they proved that when M is an orientable closed hypersurface of \mathbb{R}^{n+1} with $H_{r+1} > 0$,

$$\lambda_1^{L_r} \int_M H_r dv \leq c(r) \int_M H_{r+1}^2 dv \quad (1.14)$$

and equality holds precisely if M is a sphere. Here $c(r) = (n-r)\binom{n}{r}$. In [9], Grosjean obtained the following similar optimal upper bound for $\lambda_1^{L_r}$ of closed hypersurfaces of any space form with $H_{r+1} > 0$ and convex isometric immersion x :

$$\lambda_1^{L_r} \text{vol}(M) \leq c(r) \int_M \frac{H_{r+1}^2 + cH_r^2}{H_r} dv \quad (1.15)$$

and equality holds if and only if $x(M)$ is an umbilical sphere. For eigenvalues of L_r and some important elliptic operators, see also [2–4, 7, 8, 10] and references therein.

In this paper, we assume that L_r is elliptic on M , for some even integer $r \in \{0, 1, \dots, n-1\}$. The purpose of this paper is to study the following closed eigenvalue problem of the elliptic operator L_r :

$$L_r(u) = -\lambda u \quad (1.16)$$

on compact submanifolds in arbitrary codimension of space forms. We know that the set of eigenvalues consists of a sequence

$$0 = \lambda_0^{L_r} < \lambda_1^{L_r} \leq \lambda_2^{L_r} \leq \dots \leq \lambda_k^{L_r} \dots \rightarrow +\infty.$$

Denote by u_i the normalized eigenfunction corresponding to $\lambda_i^{L_r}$ such that $\{u_i\}_0^\infty$ becomes an orthonormal basis of $L^2(M)$, that is

$$\begin{cases} L_r(u_i) = -\lambda_i^{L_r} u_i, \\ \int_M u_i u_j dv = \delta_{ij}, \text{ for any } i, j = 0, 1, \dots \end{cases}$$

We will prove the following results:

Theorem 1.1. *Let (M, g) be an n -dimensional orientable closed connected submanifold of a space form $\mathbb{R}^N(c)$ with $c \geq 0$. Assume that L_r is elliptic on M , for some even integer $r \in \{0, 1, \dots, n-1\}$. Then we have*

$$\lambda_1^{L_r} \int_M H_r dv \leq c(r) \int_M (|\mathbf{H}_{r+1}|^2 dv + c H_r^2) dv; \quad (1.17)$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \sqrt{\lambda_i^{L_r}} \leq \frac{n}{\text{vol}(M)} \sqrt{(n-r) \int_M S_r dv \int_M (|\mathbf{H}|^2 + c) dv}, \quad (1.18)$$

where $c(r) = (n-r)\binom{n}{r}$.

In particular, for $c = 0$, the equality in (1.17) holds if and only if M is a sphere in \mathbb{R}^{n+1} ; for $c = 1$, the equality in (1.17) holds if and only if x is r -minimal. For $c = 0$, the equality in (1.18) holds if and only if M is a sphere in \mathbb{R}^{n+1} ; for $c = 1$, the equality in (1.18) holds if and only if x is minimal.

Using the fact

$$\lambda_1^{L_r} \leq \lambda_2^{L_r} \leq \cdots \leq \lambda_n^{L_r},$$

we have

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \sqrt{\lambda_i^{L_r}} \geq n \sqrt{\lambda_1^{L_r}}.$$

Therefore, we obtain the following upper bound of the first eigenvalue $\lambda_1^{L_r}$ from (1.18):

Corollary 1.2. *Under the assumption of Theorem 1.1, we have*

$$\lambda_1^{L_r} \leq \frac{n-r}{(\text{vol}(M))^2} \int_M S_r dv \int_M (|\mathbf{H}|^2 + c) dv. \quad (1.19)$$

In particular, for $c = 0$, the equality in (1.19) holds if and only if M is a sphere in \mathbb{R}^{n+1} ; for $c = 1$, the equality in (1.19) holds if and only if x is minimal.

In particular,

$$\sqrt{\lambda_1^{L_r}} \leq \sqrt{\lambda_2^{L_r}} \leq \cdots \leq \sqrt{\lambda_n^{L_r}} < \sum_{i=1}^n \sqrt{\lambda_i^{L_r}}.$$

Hence, we also obtain

Corollary 1.3. *Under the assumption of Theorem 1.1, we have*

$$\lambda_n^{L_r} < \frac{n^2(n-r)}{(\text{vol}(M))^2} \int_M S_r dv \int_M (|\mathbf{H}|^2 + c) dv. \quad (1.20)$$

Remark 1.1. When $N = n + 1$ and $c = 0$, our estimate (1.17) becomes the result (1.14) of Alencar, do Carmo and Rosenberg in [1]. For $N = n + 1$ and $c \geq 0$, our estimate (1.17) seems like the estimate (1.15) of Grosjean in [9]. But our estimate (1.17) is independent of the convex isometric immersion.

Remark 1.2. Clearly, our estimate (1.19) is new. Moreover, we obtain estimates on high order eigenvalues of the elliptic operator L_r on submanifolds of space forms with arbitrary codimension.

2. PROOF OF RESULTS

In order to complete our proof, we need the following lemma:

Lemma 2.1. *Under the assumption of Theorem 1.1, for any function $h_A \in C^2(M)$ satisfying*

$$\int_M h_A u_0 u_B = 0, \quad \text{for } B = 1, \dots, A-1, \quad (2.1)$$

we have

$$\lambda_A^{L_r} \int_M \langle T^r \nabla h_A, \nabla h_A \rangle dv \leq \int_M |\text{div}(T^r \nabla h_A)|^2 dv; \quad (2.2)$$

and

$$\sqrt{\lambda_A^{L_r}} \int_M |\nabla h_A|^2 dv \leq \delta \int_M \langle T^r \nabla h_A, \nabla h_A \rangle dv + \frac{1}{4\delta} \int_M (\Delta h_A)^2 dv, \quad (2.3)$$

where δ is any positive constant.

Proof. We let $\varphi_A = h_A u_0 - u_0 \int_M h_A u_0^2 dv$. Then

$$\int_M \varphi_A u_0 dv = 0. \quad (2.4)$$

It has been shown from (2.1) that

$$\int_M \varphi_A u_B dv = 0, \quad \text{for } B = 1, \dots, A-1. \quad (2.5)$$

Hence, we have from the Rayleigh-Ritz inequality

$$\lambda_A^{L_r} \int_M \varphi_A^2 dv \leq - \int_M \varphi_A L_r(\varphi_A) dv. \quad (2.6)$$

Since u_0 is a nonzero constant satisfying $u_0^2 \text{vol}(M) = 1$, and T^r is symmetric and divergence-free, a direct calculation yields

$$\begin{aligned} - \int_M \varphi_A L_r(\varphi_A) dv &= - \int_M \varphi_A \text{div}(T^r \nabla(h_A u_0)) dv \\ &= \int_M \langle T^r \nabla(h_A u_0), \nabla(h_A u_0) \rangle dv \\ &= u_0^2 \int_M \langle T^r \nabla h_A, \nabla h_A \rangle dv. \end{aligned} \quad (2.7)$$

Putting (2.7) into the inequality (2.6) gives

$$\lambda_A^{L_r} \int_M \varphi_A^2 dv \leq u_0^2 \int_M \langle T^r \nabla h_A, \nabla h_A \rangle dv. \quad (2.8)$$

We define

$$\omega_A := - \int_M \varphi_A \text{div}(T^r \nabla(h_A u_0)) dv = u_0^2 \int_M \langle T^r \nabla h_A, \nabla h_A \rangle dv. \quad (2.9)$$

Then (2.8) gives

$$\lambda_A^{L_r} \int_M \varphi_A^2 dv \leq \omega_A. \quad (2.10)$$

From the Schwarz inequality and (2.10), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
\lambda_A^{L_r} \omega_A^2 &= \lambda_A^{L_r} \left(\int_M \varphi_A \operatorname{div}(T^r \nabla(h_A u_0)) dv \right)^2 \\
&\leq \lambda_A^{L_r} \left(\int_M \varphi_A^2 dv \right) \left(\int_M |\operatorname{div}(T^r \nabla(h_A u_0))|^2 dv \right) \\
&\leq \omega_A \int_M |\operatorname{div}(T^r \nabla(h_A u_0))|^2 dv,
\end{aligned} \tag{2.11}$$

which gives

$$\lambda_A^{L_r} \omega_A \leq \int_M |\operatorname{div}(T^r \nabla(h_A u_0))|^2 dv. \tag{2.12}$$

Combining (2.9) with (2.12) yields the inequality (2.2).

On the other hand, from the the Stokes formula, one gets

$$\begin{aligned}
-u_0 \int_M \varphi_A \Delta h_A dv &= - \int_M \varphi_A \Delta(h_A u_0) dv \\
&= - \int_M \left(h_A u_0 - u_0 \int_M h_A u_0^2 dv \right) \Delta(h_A u_0) dv \\
&= \int_M |\nabla(h_A u_0)|^2 dv \\
&= u_0^2 \int_M |\nabla h_A|^2 dv.
\end{aligned}$$

Therefore, for any positive constant δ , we derive from (2.8)

$$\begin{aligned}
\sqrt{\lambda_A^{L_r} u_0^2} \int_M |\nabla h_A|^2 dv &= - \sqrt{\lambda_A^{L_r} u_0} \int_M \varphi_A \Delta h_A dv \\
&\leq \delta \lambda_A^{L_r} \int_M \varphi_A^2 dv + \frac{1}{4\delta} u_0^2 \int_M (\Delta h_A)^2 dv \\
&\leq \delta u_0^2 \int_M \langle T^r \nabla h_A, \nabla h_A \rangle dv + \frac{1}{4\delta} u_0^2 \int_M (\Delta h_A)^2 dv.
\end{aligned} \tag{2.13}$$

The desired inequality (2.3) is obtained. \square

Proof of the estimate (1.17) in Theorem 1.1. For $c = 0$, according to the orthogonalization of Gram and Schmidt, we get that there exists an orthogonal

matrix $O = (O_A^B)$ such that

$$\sum_{C=1}^N \int_M O_A^C x_C u_0 u_B = \sum_{\gamma=1}^N O_A^\gamma \int_M x_\gamma u_0 u_B = 0, \quad \text{for } B = 1, \dots, A-1. \quad (2.14)$$

Taking $h_A = \sum_{C=1}^N O_A^C x_C$ in (2.2), and summing over A from 1 to N , we obtain

$$\sum_{A=1}^N \lambda_A^{L_r} \int_M \langle T^r \nabla h_A, \nabla h_A \rangle dv \leq \sum_{A=1}^N \int_M |\operatorname{div}(T^r \nabla h_A)|^2 dv. \quad (2.15)$$

Since L_r is elliptic, namely T^r is positive definite, we have

$$\sum_{A=1}^N \lambda_A^{L_r} \int_M \langle T^r \nabla h_A, \nabla h_A \rangle dv \geq \lambda_1^{L_r} \sum_{A=1}^N \int_M \langle T^r \nabla h_A, \nabla h_A \rangle dv. \quad (2.16)$$

Therefore, from (2.15) and the orthogonal matrix O , we derive

$$\lambda_1^{L_r} \sum_{A=1}^N \int_M \langle T^r \nabla x_A, \nabla x_A \rangle dv \leq \sum_{A=1}^N \int_M |\operatorname{div}(T^r \nabla x_A)|^2 dv. \quad (2.17)$$

Let E_1, \dots, E_N be a canonical orthonormal basis of \mathbb{R}^N , then $x_A = \langle E_A, x \rangle$ and

$$\nabla(x_A) = \langle E_A, e_i \rangle e_i = E_A^\top, \quad (2.18)$$

where \top denote the tangent projection to M . Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{A=1}^N \langle T^r \nabla x_A, \nabla x_A \rangle &= \sum_{A=1}^N T_{ij}^r \langle E_A, e_i \rangle \langle E_A, e_j \rangle \\ &= T_{ij}^r \langle e_i, e_j \rangle \\ &= \operatorname{trace}(T^r) \\ &= (n-r)S_r, \end{aligned}$$

which shows that $S_r > 0$ since T^r is positive definite. Using the definition of L_r , we have

$$\sum_{A=1}^N |\operatorname{div}(T^r \nabla x_A)|^2 = \sum_{A=1}^N \langle E_A, L_r(x) \rangle^2 = |L_r(x)|^2 = (r+1)^2 |\mathbf{S}_{r+1}|^2.$$

Thus, we derive from (2.17)

$$(n-r)\lambda_1^{L_r} \int_M S_r dv \leq (r+1)^2 \int_M |\mathbf{S}_{r+1}|^2 dv. \quad (2.19)$$

By virtue of the relationships between S_r and H_r , we deduce to

$$\lambda_1^{L_r} \int_M H_r dv \leq c(r) \int_M |\mathbf{H}_{r+1}|^2 dv. \quad (2.20)$$

When $c = 1$,

$$\mathbb{S}^N = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^{N+1}; |x|^2 = x_0^2 + x_1^2 + \cdots + x_N^2 = \frac{1}{c}\}.$$

Using the similar method, we can derive

$$\lambda_1^{L_r} \sum_{A=0}^N \int_M \langle T^r \nabla x_A, \nabla x_A \rangle dv \leq \sum_{A=0}^N \int_M |\operatorname{div}(T^r \nabla x_A)|^2 dv. \quad (2.21)$$

Putting

$$\sum_{A=0}^N \langle T^r \nabla x_A, \nabla x_A \rangle = \operatorname{trace}(T^r) = (n-r)S_r$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{A=0}^N |\operatorname{div}(T^r \nabla x_A)|^2 &= |L_r(x)|^2 \\ &= (r+1)^2 |\mathbf{S}_{r+1}|^2 + c^2 (n-r)^2 S_r^2 |x|^2 \\ &= (r+1)^2 |\mathbf{S}_{r+1}|^2 + c(n-r)^2 S_r^2 \end{aligned}$$

into (2.21) gives

$$(n-r)\lambda_1^{L_r} \int_M S_r dv \leq \int_M [(r+1)^2 |\mathbf{S}_{r+1}|^2 + c(n-r)^2 S_r^2] dv. \quad (2.22)$$

Hence, the desired estimate (1.17) is derived.

Next, we consider the case that equalities occur. If $c \geq 0$ and the equality in (1.17) holds, then inequalities (2.6), (2.11) and (2.16) become equalities. Hence, we have

$$\lambda_1^{L_r} = \lambda_2^{L_r} = \cdots = \lambda_N^{L_r} = \mu; \quad (2.23)$$

$$L_r(\varphi_A) = -\mu \varphi_A, \quad (2.24)$$

where μ is a constant. When $c = 0$, from (2.24) and (1.11), we can infer that the vector field $\varphi = (\varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_N)$ is parallel with \mathbf{S}_{r+1} . Thus, we obtain

$$\frac{1}{2}(|\varphi|^2)_{,i} = \langle e_i, \varphi \rangle = 0, \quad (2.25)$$

which shows that $|\varphi|^2$ is constant. Hence M is a sphere in \mathbb{R}^{n+1} . When $c = 1$ and the equality in (1.17) holds, it is easy to see that $\mathbf{S}_{r+1} = 0$ by combining (2.24) with (1.11). That is to say that x is r -minimal. \square

Proof of the estimate (1.18) in Theorem 1.1. For $c = 0$, we taking $h_A = \sum_{C=1}^N O_A^C x_C$ in (2.3), where the matrix O is given by (2.14). From (2.18), we get

$$|\nabla h_A|^2 = |\nabla x_A|^2 = |E_A^\top|^2 \leq |E_A|^2 = 1, \quad \forall A, \quad (2.26)$$

and

$$\sum_{A=1}^N |\nabla h_A|^2 = \sum_{A=1}^N |\nabla x_A|^2 = n. \quad (2.27)$$

Thus, we infer

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{A=1}^N \sqrt{\lambda_A^{L_r}} |\nabla h_A|^2 \\ & \geq \sum_{i=1}^n \sqrt{\lambda_i^{L_r}} |\nabla h_i|^2 + \sqrt{\lambda_{n+1}^{L_r}} \sum_{\alpha=n+1}^N |\nabla h_\alpha|^2 \\ & = \sum_{i=1}^n \sqrt{\lambda_i^{L_r}} |\nabla h_i|^2 + \sqrt{\lambda_{n+1}^{L_r}} \left(n - \sum_{j=1}^n |\nabla h_j|^2 \right) \\ & = \sum_{i=1}^n \sqrt{\lambda_i^{L_r}} |\nabla h_i|^2 + \sqrt{\lambda_{n+1}^{L_r}} \sum_{j=1}^n (1 - |\nabla h_j|^2) \\ & \geq \sum_{i=1}^n \sqrt{\lambda_i^{L_r}} |\nabla h_i|^2 + \sum_{j=1}^n \sqrt{\lambda_j^{L_r}} (1 - |\nabla h_j|^2) \\ & = \sum_{i=1}^n \sqrt{\lambda_i^{L_r}}. \end{aligned} \quad (2.28)$$

From (1.11), we have $\sum_{A=1}^N (\Delta h_A)^2 = |\Delta(x)|^2 = |\mathbf{S}_1|^2 = n^2 |\mathbf{H}|^2$. Hence, taking sum on A from 1 to N for (2.3), we have

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \sqrt{\lambda_i^{L_r}} \text{vol}(M) \leq \delta(n-r) \int_M S_r dv + \frac{n^2}{4\delta} \int_M |\mathbf{H}|^2 dv. \quad (2.29)$$

Minimizing the right hand side of (2.29) by taking

$$\delta = \frac{n}{2} \sqrt{\frac{\int_M |\mathbf{H}|^2 dv}{(n-r) \int_M S_r dv}}$$

yields

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \sqrt{\lambda_i^{L_r}} \text{vol}(M) \leq n \sqrt{(n-r) \int_M S_r dv \int_M |\mathbf{H}|^2 dv}. \quad (2.30)$$

When $c = 1$, the proof is similar. We omit it here.

When $c \geq 0$ and the equality in (1.18) holds, then inequalities (2.6), (2.13) and (2.28) become equalities. Hence, we have

$$\lambda_1^{L_r} = \lambda_2^{L_r} = \cdots = \lambda_N^{L_r} = \mu; \quad (2.31)$$

$$\Delta(\varphi_A) = -\mu \varphi_A. \quad (2.32)$$

Similarly, we infer that, for $c = 0$, the equality in (1.18) holds if and only if M is a sphere in \mathbb{R}^{n+1} ; for $c = 1$, the equality in (1.18) holds if and only if x is minimal.

□

Acknowledgements. The first author's research was supported by NSFC No. 11371018, 11171091. The second author's research was supported by NSFC No. 11401537.

REFERENCES

- [1] H. Alencar, M. do Carmo, and H. Rosenberg, On the first eigenvalue of the linearized operator of the r -th mean curvature of a hypersurface, *Ann. Glob. Anal. Geom.* 1993, 11: 387-395.
- [2] H. Alencar, M. do Carmo, and F. Marques, Upper bounds for the first eigenvalue of the operator L_r and some applications, *Illinois J. Math.* 2001, 45: 851-863.
- [3] H. Alencar, G. S. Neto, D. T. Zhou, Eigenvalue estimates for a class of elliptic differential operators on compact manifolds, *arXiv:1304.5268[math.DG]*.
- [4] L. J. Alías, J. M. Malacarne, On the first eigenvalue of the linearized operator of the higher order mean curvature for closed hypersurfaces in space forms, *Illinois J. Math.* 2004, 48: 219-240.
- [5] S. Y. Cheng, S. T. Yau, Hypersurfaces with constant scalar curvature, *Math. Ann.* 1977, 225: 195-204.
- [6] L. F. Cao, H. Z. Li, r -Minimal submanifolds in space forms, *Ann. Glob. Anal. Geom.* 2007, 2: 311-341.
- [7] Q.-M. Cheng, First eigenvalue of a Jacobi operator of hypersurfaces with a constant scalar curvature, *Proc. Amer. Math. Soc.*, 2008, 136: 3309-3318.
- [8] Q.-M. Cheng, Estimates for eigenvalues of the Paneitz operator, *J. Differential Equations*, 2014, 257: 3868-3886.
- [9] J.-F. Grosjean, A Reilly inequality for some natural elliptic operators on hypersurfaces, *Differential Geom. Appl.*, 2000, 13: 267-276.
- [10] H. Z. Li, X. F. Wang, Second eigenvalue of a Jacobi operator of hypersurfaces with constant scalar curvature, *Proc. Amer. Math. Soc.*, 2012, 140: 291-307.

COLLEGE OF MATHEMATICS AND INFORMATION SCIENCE, HENAN NORMAL UNIVERSITY, XINXIANG, HENAN 453007, PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

E-mail address: hgy@henannu.edu.cn

SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS AND STATISTICS, ZHENGZHOU UNIVERSITY, ZHENGZHOU, HENAN 450001, PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

E-mail address: xrqi@zzu.edu.cn